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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
CD NO.

COUNTRY Bolivia/Argentina

SUBJECT Activities of MNR Exiles in Argentina

PLACE 25X1A6a

ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

DATE OF INFO [REDACTED]

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DATE DISTR. 6 MAY 1949

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Through contacts in the communications censorship system established in Argentina,* Bolivian Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario (MNR) exiles in Argentina have access to mail entering and leaving the country. Source states that Carlos Victor Aramayo of the Bolivian Aramayo Mines recently wrote a letter to a friend in Buenos Aires. The letter was apparently opened by Argentine censorship authorities and made available to MNR exiles, for excerpts concerning the political situation in Bolivia were reproduced and distributed among MNR members in Buenos Aires. The letter was then delivered to the addressee.

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2. Guillermo Arinez Velasco, a former captain of engineers in the Bolivian army and at present an MNR exile in Brazil, traveled by air from Corumba to Buenos Aires on 24 February. Arinez stayed at the Hotel Roma, where a banquet was held on 10 March by the MNR group. One of the purposes of this banquet was to create goodwill among MNR exiles and to heal a breach which has developed between MNR leader Victor Paz Estenssoro and his fellow-exile Jose Celestino Pinto. Despite the difficult financial situation of the MNR exiles, the banquet was conducted on a rather lavish scale. Arinez returned to Corumba by air on 20 March.

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3. The following Argentine nationalists have been reported to be associating with the MNR refugees in Argentina:
 - a. Juan Queraltó, national chairman of the Alianza Libertadora Nacionalista (ALN);
 - b. Dr. Manuel Fresco, former governor of Buenos Aires, who is a rabid nationalist and who was notoriously pro-Nazi during the war;
 - c. Alberto Trejo;
 - d. Cisno Olmedo;
 - e. Guillermo Stramiello;
 - f. Jorge D. Lapuente;

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g. Jose Pereyra; and

h. John William Cooke, Peronista National Deputy.

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* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. An elaborate system of communications censorship has been instituted in Argentina, according to source, who states that one of his friends was recently reprimanded by Argentine authorities for statements he had made in a letter which he had posted in Buenos Aires. Source reports the rumor that some former Nazis experienced in government controls have been engaged by the Argentine government for this work.

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